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Wednesday, May 22.....21,438

Thursday, May 23.....21,571

Friday, May 24.....21,571

Saturday, May 25.....21,571

Totals.....138,817

Daily average (Sunday, 20,489, excepted).....41,388

The Cuban Muddle.

This morning an idea appeared to

permeate political circles in Washington

that our recent Cuban visitors had out-

witted Secretary Root, and that he had

committed a serious error in expound-

ing to them the Platt terms in the way

of doctrine and construction. What has

happened in consequence of that visit

and repeated conferences at the War

Department between the Cuban com-

mittee and the Secretary is now known

to the public. In accepting the terms

the Cuban National Convention has ap-

pended an addenda giving what is al-

leged to be a summary of Mr. Root's

statements as to the scope and mean-

ing of the several articles, and they are

adopted strictly to the same.

Whether Mr. Root erred in his esti-

mate of the diplomatic cunning of his

visitors, and considered them in the

light of political children to whom a

kindergarten lesson in future relations

would be a kindness, or not, is beside

the question. In the end they have not

trapped the Secretary of War, but only

themselves. These islanders, having

shown the Latin finesse which they

have, and a considerable grasp of the

methods, if not the principles, of di-

plomacy cannot be acquitted of possess-

ing also full knowledge that Mr. Root

could no more bind the United States,

or change the intent or meaning of a

law of Congress than he could fly. In-

stead, two years ago, when the Consti-

tutional Convention, Senores Horatio Ru-

bens and Gonzalo de Quesada, have

practiced law in the United States, and

are furthermore, in view of other ex-

perience as well, perfectly familiar

with the governmental institutions, or-

ganization, and practice of the country.

At least these two thoroughly knew

that the convention was merely wast-

ing time and indefinitely postponing

Cuban autonomy in committing itself

to the fully which now appears.

We are sorry that the embarrass-

ment should have arisen, because the

American people would like to have the

Cuban case finally adjudicated, settled,

and off the docket; but that, it

seems, is not to be for some time to

come. So much the worse for Cuba.

It will now be necessary to send the

convention an ultimatum which will be

one in form as well as effect. The Platt

terms will have to be accepted ver-

batim et literatim at once, or

our island neighbors will find them-

selves worse off when Congress shall

meet again. They must understand

that after all the blood and treasure

the great Republic has spent to free

them from the yoke of Spain, it is in

no mood for trifling at their hands, and

that nothing of the kind will be tol-

erated.

If the Cubans think by this subter-

fuge to postpone action and secure

more favorable conditions next winter,

they will find themselves egregiously

mistaken. No doubt if the matter is

left in the air until December, the Platt

terms will be either amended or re-

pealed. In the one event they will be

made stronger and reframed so as to

declare a firm protectorate over Cuba,

with partial military occupation until

such time as this Government may

think it prudent to suspend that ex-

ercise of the suzerain police power. In

the alternative of repeal, the Cubans

may as well make up their minds that

the next step will be annexation. We

do not really look for early annexation,

as the Sugar and Tobacco Trusts are

opposed to the idea, but unless the is-

landers shall speedily come to their

senses and agree to accept what is now

would cramp Germany on the West

Coast of Africa and greatly affect her

colonial interests in that direction.

Diplomats will be apt to ask themselves

if the Morocco question can have any

relation to this sudden rapprochement.

On the face of things it would seem

that Germany's immediate interest

would be to join with England in pre-

serving the integrity of the Morocco

Sultanate, but politics makes strange

bedfellows, as we have had much occa-

sion to observe in the course of history.

England, indeed, may not be so much

in the aims of France, which ap-

pear to include possession of the south

shore of the Strait of Gibraltar, unless

a military alliance with the Kaiser is

practicable. England, it may be added,

is likely to suffer something somewhere

at Russia's hands for breaking up the

Russo-Persian arrangement in the

Shah's country, and that fact may com-

pel her to act with extreme prudence

in the matter of tying her hands tighter

than they are now tied. The South

African war is not at an end. The

Boers are still in force in Cape Colony

and raiding actively. They are attack-

ing British posts and keeping all the

forces at Lord Kitchener's disposal as

busy as bees. In these circumstances

the British Government is not at liberty

to boil more hot water for itself any-

where, and will be fortunate if it es-

cape serious damage while the preoccupa-

tion lasts.

A third possible blood spot on the Eu-

ropean situation is visible in the in-

tense unrest and revolutionary condi-

tions obtaining in the Balkans. Here

again the hand of England would seem

to be felt were it not crippled. What

will happen here, no one can predict.

A Mother Shipton could predict, but it

seems altogether probable that within

the current year there will be sensa-

tional or startling events in the Old

World to chronicle.

Discipline in the Army.

The recent occurrences at West Point

and the effects of the anti-canteen law

and those which, in their accidental

conjunction, have wrought serious con-

sideration, since both tend to weaken

military discipline. The West Point

mutiny indicated that the cadets wished

to convince the faculty that when it

came to interfering with a long-es-

tablished tradition, matters were to be

settled not by the authorities in power, but

by a consensus of popular opinion, or

rather by the opinion of the most tur-

bulent element. When the general

character of American youth is consid-

ered, it is not possible to believe that

the majority of the cadets were in cor-

did sympathy with this infraction of

discipline.

The result of leniency with the cadets

who were responsible for the trouble,

especially if such mildness be the result

of political influence, would, of course,

be the weakening of discipline in the

army. If a generation of officers is

trained to believe that mutiny is justifi-

able, the outlook for the general who

happens to be in command of these

subalterns at a critical time is not

bright. Such a commander will be

forced to acknowledge to himself that

he cannot enforce his authority, no

matter how great may be the need of

it, because political influence is more

powerful than he, and will reinstate an

offender if he can get a sufficient

amount of it. It is not good that poli-

tics should rule the army.

On the other hand, here is an obvious

indication that on occasion political in-

fluence does rule the army, and that in

such cases it affects nobody but the sol-

diers themselves and those in their im-

mediate neighborhood. It was, in

other words, a case of local influence,

nothing in the world but political

influence, exerted through a most

unrighteous amount of lobbying, which

effected the anti-canteen legislation.

The people who forced it on the army

were not officers, and had no knowledge

whatever of the conditions existing in

barack-room life except what they got

from story books. Their influence and

arguments were addressed purely to the

voting population, and through it to

Senators and Representatives. The

army officers who business it to be

responsible for discipline among the

soldiers under their control, who are

thoroughly acquainted with the condi-

tions of military life, and to whose in-

terest it certainly is to reduce the li-

ability of drunkenness in the army—

these men, the only men in the country

whose judgment was really worth

much in this particular case, were

practically not consulted at all. Many

of them protested violently against the

views of GENERAL GRANT.

He Looks for a Great Future in the

Philippines.

NEW YORK, May 31.—Gen. Frederick

D. Grant, who is on his way to Europe,

arrived in this city yesterday and went

to the Fifth Avenue Hotel. General Grant,

who has just come from the Philippines,

joined his mother, Mrs. U. S. Grant, Mrs.

Sartoris, and Jesse and U. S. Grant, Jr.

He expressed himself as well pleased with

the situation in the Philippines, and said

he would return there early in September.

He will go to West Point Monday and re-

turn with U. S. Grant, third, for whom he

has secured a furlough. He will sail June

11, and go directly to Russia to visit his

daughter, Princess Cantacuzene. Speaking

of the situation in the Philippines, Gen-

eral Grant said:

"When I left the Philippines, on April

22, the insurrection, or rebellion, was com-

pletely, as you might say, crushed out.

Malabar and Calais, who operated in the

Philippines, had been driven out of the

country. In northwestern Luzon all

that were out were negotiating to come

in, with the exception of a man named

Tinio, and I think his claws had been cut

so that he would be of no damage should

he stay out, and I do not know but what

he has surrendered. I came over

Many of those that I was negotiating with

have come in.

"Of course, the capture of Aguinaldo,

the central figure of the insurrection,

would have the appearance of being very

important, but Aguinaldo is not of great

influence for some time previous to his cap-

ture, and it was due to that fact that he

got no reports from the interior of the

island, and he sent over to find out about

it. This message came to our hands and

led the party to capture him. The fact

that he had no reports shows that he had

entirely lost control of affairs, and he was

no longer a figure in the insurrection,

which degenerated into roving bands of

robbers. The capture of Aguinaldo is a

pretty picture—the climax of the tragedy

—and it was regarded far more important

here than it was in the Philippines. The

Philippines themselves apparently did not

care anything about it. I do not think it

had any influence here, or the other way

around. Whatever opposition there is to American

control comes from people that have been

ladronecs or tuluzons, or what he would

call highway robbers, who feel that it

is a better excuse for being a robber to

do it as an insurrectionary than as a

robber. I have no idea what they are going

to do with Aguinaldo, but I do not think

he is dangerous in any way, unless we

make him too important. While I do not

think what the authorities will do, I do

not have the saying of it. I would turn him

loose.

"The Philippines have a great future.

Only a small part of the islands is cul-

tivated to a full extent, so that the area

of cultivation is very small. The principal

staple products, such as hemp, coffee,

sugar and chocolate, can be greatly in-

creased. Besides these are valuable

mines, some of gold, which I have seen

in many places, and some of silver. The

indications of iron are in many places; splendid

iron ore, which is so pure that it is ma-

leable without the furnace, and large coal

mines, which I am told of, all of which

promise great development in mineral

resources.

"Their forests are superb. I have seen

tables made from their wood that were

four or five feet in width and fourteen

feet long, made out of a single plank of

the most beautiful hardwood. Some of them

are of the most magnificent hardwood. One

wheel in this